

What is the Driver Privacy Act?

The Driver Privacy Act (DPA), NH RSA 260:14, establishes that the Division of Motor Vehicle's (DMV) records are confidential. Only certain people and entities have access to the records, and then only for certain purposes permitted by law. Unless you authorize release of your records, or the statute authorizes release for legitimate governmental or business purposes, your records are confidential. For example, records may be released to law enforcement agencies for use in official business, or to authorized insurance companies for claims investigations. Your social security number and digital image are specially protected records which are not disclosed to any private person or business, even if the person or business is entitled to other motor vehicle record information.

May I request that my personal information not be released to others?

Yes. The DPA allows you to request non-disclosure of your information in certain cases. You may elect to shield your motor vehicle records from release:

- 1) To a bank or similar institution to verify information you have given them;
- 2) For providing notice of owners of towed vehicles;
- 3) To businesses (other than automobile manufacturers) in matters such as motor vehicle or driver safety;
- 4) To businesses for use in conducting research; and
- 5) For use in connection with any legal proceedings.

Will the law prohibit all disclosures if I file a waiver?

No. Even if you file a waiver, your records will be available for official use by the Department of Safety and other governmental agencies, including law enforcement, as well as motor vehicle manufacturers and authorized insurance companies and their agents. In addition, the law will not affect all mail solicitations, but only those initiated through DMV records. Of course, the waiver will apply only to those disclosures which come after the time when the waiver is processed. It will not affect information which has been disclosed prior to that time.

How do I request a waiver?

If you would like to request the non-disclosure of your personal information, you must complete and sign the Request for Waiver of Personal Information form. This form is available at the Department of Safety, Division of Motor Vehicles, Financial Responsibility Bureau, Room 208, at 10 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03305, or at any of the Motor Vehicle substations. The form shows you the options which are available to you in requesting a waiver, and provides instructions on how to complete the waiver process.

You may drop off the completed form in person at the Department of Safety, or at your nearest substation. The Department of Safety will also accept the completed form if you mail it or send it in by FAX. If mailed or faxed, please note that the law requires the signature on the form to be notarized. The mailing address is:

N.H. Department of Safety
Division of Motor Vehicles
Financial Responsibility Bureau
10 Hazen Drive
Concord NH 03305

The FAX number is: (603) 271-6653

Your waiver will take effect no later than 40 days after receipt of your request.

Will the law protect the privacy of my records even if I do not file a request for non-disclosure?

Yes. Even if you do not file the non-disclosure request discussed above, the DPA prohibits the disclosure of your records to people who are not authorized by you or by state law. Therefore, individuals or businesses who will not use the records for legitimate governmental and business purposes permitted by law do not have access to your records.

Where can I go if I have questions?

The Driver Privacy Act is a significant law, and the Department of Safety wants to do whatever it can to help you understand what this law means. If you have any questions, you may talk with a supervisor at any DMV office, or you can also send your written questions to the Director of Motor Vehicles, 10 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03305.

This brochure is intended to serve as an aid in understanding the Driver Privacy Act. The Department of Safety encourages all people interested in the specific provisions of the Act to review the language of the law, RSA 260:14.

DSMV490 (Rev.03/01)